



COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the year 1944.

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Public Health Officers of the Authority:-

Medical Officer of Health (part time).

Andrew Hamilton, M.B., ChB., D.P.H.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

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Additional Sanitary Inspector.

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Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1944.

To the Coalville Urban District Council.

Mr Chairmen and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit a report respecting the health and sanitary condition of the Urban District for the year 1944

The report follows the instructions contained in Circular 40/45, dated 19th March 1945, from the Ministry of Health, and is prepared on the lines of that for 1943, as indicated in Circular 10/44, dated 15th February 1944.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) 6,453.  
Population (1931 census) 21,880.  
Population (est. middle 1944) 23,850  
Number of inhabited houses (end 1944), according to rate books 6563.  
Rateable Value £108,897.  
Sum represented by a penny rate £423.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	274	233	507
Illegitimate	8	12	20
Total	<u>282</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>527</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 estimated population mid.1944. 22.1

Still Births.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	7	7	14
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>15</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 27.6

<u>Deaths.</u>	M.	F.	Total.
	130	124	254

Death Rate per 1000 estimated population mid 1944 10.6

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

		Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis	2.	3.7
Other maternal causes	0.	0
Total.	<u>2</u>	<u>3.7</u>

Death Rate of infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1000 live births.	53
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live Births.	51
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.	100
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	25
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	4

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

There have been no changes in ordinary laboratory facilities, nursing in the home, hospital services, or ambulance facilities.

Laboratory Services.

A statistical return of the work performed in the County Laboratory, pertaining to this area, is appended.

Milk examinations (Bacteriological)	179
Swabs for diptheria.	20
Sputa for T.B.	43
Sewage and Water analyses.	60
Urine (general and bacteriological)	4
Urine for T.B.	2
Milk for phosphatase Test.	50
Blood for Wassermann Test	3
Miscellaneous.	4
	<u>365</u>

The total number of examinations made in the Laboratory was 7,733.

In addition to the above, 64 samples of milk were submitted by your Sanitary Inspector, to Cambridge University laboratory for T.B. examination.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

The sources of public water supply are the same as indicated in previous reports. The temporary bulk supply from Ashby Rural District Council was in operation, in varying amounts, up to November, since which time little water from this source has been taken.

During the year the trial borehole sunk at Holly Hayes, with a view to augmenting existing supplies, has proved successful and temporary pumping plant is to be installed to utilise the yield until more permanent works can be constructed.

In the case of the second trial borehole at Battleflat the cores obtained showed no water bearing strata and boring operations were accordingly abandoned.

The limitation of the public water supply, which has been in operation since October 1942, continues, and water is shut off from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. each day.

Town water is supplied direct from the mains by separate service pipes to individual properties, although in a very few instances external stand pipes have been allowed as a temporary measure.

49 samples of town water and 9 samples of water from private wells were submitted for examination during the year, with the following results:-

Town Water.

Whitwick	Ellistown	Forest Rock and Broom Leys.	Hoo Ash	From Taps in the area.
Chem Bact	Chem Bact	Chem Bact	Chem Bact	Chem Bact
- 8 Sat	- 10 Sat	- 10 Sat	- 6 Sat 1 Pos 1 Doubtful	- 13 Sat

2 of the 10 samples from the Ellistown Source were of untreated water.

Private wells.

8 of these samples were subjected only to bacteriological examination and were all found to be unsatisfactory. With one exception these samples were all obtained from dairy farms in the area, and where town water mains are available steps are being taken to provide a supply therefrom.

The 6th sample was satisfactory to both bacteriological and chemical examination.

16 private wells have been closed during the year and 23 houses, formerly obtaining water therefrom, connected to the public mains.

The use of a private well, with pumping machinery and external supply tank, and supplying 85 houses in the Bardon area, has been discontinued. Town water is now supplied to the tank, as a temporary measure. When conditions allow, all these houses will be connected to the mains independently.

232,500,000 gallons of water were pumped from the various sources of town supply during 1944, an increase of 10,102,000 gallons over 1943.

150 yards of distribution main were laid at Ellistown to the Minors' Hostel, and 1214 yards as extensions in the Melbourne Road, Snibstone, area.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

No extensions or alterations at either of the sewage disposal works were made during the year.

At the Kelham Bridge Farm the scheme approved by the Minister of Health in January, 1944, for lifting the sewage from the Middle Level Outfall to a Higher level, could not be proceeded with as the necessary machinery had not been delivered.

Little further progress has been made with the sewerage reconstruction scheme mentioned in my last report owing to urgent requirements in other directions.

There have been no sewer extensions during the year.

80 inspections of drains, with 32 revisits, were made during 1944 mainly concerned with blockages and minor drain extensions. 3 properties were entirely redrained.

3. Closet Accommodation.

The closet accommodation in the area at the end of 1944 was as follows:-

Water closets.	6632.
Privies.	247.
Pail closets	234.



8 privies were converted to 9 pail closets during the year, and a water closet was provided in place of a pail closet.

New work accounted for 3 additional water closets.

Lack of building labour, restrictions in the supply of materials, and the fact that conversion is, in most of the outstanding cases, linked up with reconditioning of the property, provision of town water supply and the redraining of the premises, are responsible for the slow progress being made with the conversion of conservancy type of conveniences. The majority of these outstanding cases occur in the Thringstone and Bardon Hill areas, in the latter of which sewage disposal arrangements are not, at the moment adequate for the treatment of water closet waste.

#### 4. Public Cleansing.

This and the collection and disposal of salvage are under the control of your Surveyor.

The methods adopted for the cleansing of the area are the same as formerly, house refuse being removed by freighters and lorries and disposed of by controlled tipping at three sites in the area. Midden and closet pail refuse is disposed of on agricultural land.

The collection of household refuse at regular intervals continues to be difficult, particularly in the winter months, owing to insufficiency of the right type of labour.

The amount of refuse collected and disposed of during the year was:-	Lorry loads	Cart loads
Pail refuse	111	-
Privy and dry ashpit refuse	362	27
Dustbin refuse	3757	1045
Market refuse	51	-

Refuse from the central slaughterhouse which was formerly collected and disposed of by the Council, is now dealt with by a private contractor.

The number of refuse receptacles in use at the end of 1944 were:-	
Dustbins	6467.
Dry Ashpits	15.
Middens	187.

#### 5 Salvage.

This is collected by the Local Authority as part of the cleansing services, and at the same time as refuse collections. Special collections are made from shops, factories etc.

#### 6 Sanitary Inspection of the area

The particulars given below are for all purposes including those given elsewhere in this report, with the exception of rodent extermination.

Total number of complaints received.	87
" " inspections	3111
" " re-visits	335
" " notices served-	
(a) formal	19
(b) informal	295
" " notices complied with -	
(a) formal	35
(b) informal	248
" " Summonses issued.	2

Inspections in connection with-		Re-visits
Dwelling houses and overcrowding.	679	112
Tents, vans etc..	17	-
Slaughterhouses.	8	1
Food premises.	277	17
Dairies and cowsheds.	131	-
Offensive trades (fish frying only).	16	1
Keeping of animals.	262	80
Factories and Outworkers.	184	22
Water supplies.	13	5
Drainage.	80	32
Common Lodging houses.	20	-
Refuse collection and disposal.	34	11
Sanitary accommodation.	20	8
Air Raid shelters.	41	-
Infectious diseases.	71	-
Meat and other foods	1094	-
Verminous premises.	71	41
Miscellaneous.	93	5

Additional work carried out was as under:-

Houses disinfected.	79
Lots of bedding etc. disinfected.	21
Houses disinfested of vermin.	26
Milk Samples for bact. exam.	112
Milk Samples for T.B. exam.	64
Water Samples by Sanitary Inspector.	10
Houses measured (Housing Act).	8

#### NOTICES

PRELIMINARY	Housing	Others
Outstanding on 1st January.	43	51
Issued during year.	44	251
Complied with during year.	30	218
Statutory action necessary.	7	12
Outstanding on 31st December.	50	72

STATUTORY	Housing	Others
Outstanding on 1st January.	17	21
Issued during year.	7	12
Complied with during year.	17	18
Outstanding on 31st December.	7	15

#### Regulated Buildings.

##### (a) Common Lodging Houses.

There are two of these, both situated in the City of Dan, Whitwick, both accommodating male lodgers only, and both in the same ownership. They have a total capacity of 34 beds. The lodgers are now mainly employees at Local factories, mines and farms and there are very few "Casuals"

Both houses have been managed and maintained in a satisfactory manner during the year, but they are old and in poor structural condition, badly planned and lacking many necessities and amenities which should be available.

There probably always will be numbers of men who, for various reasons, prefer accommodation of a this kind to occupation of a house, and their welfare is, equally with that of other members of the community, a responsibility of the Local Authority and Government, and I suggest that you should give serious consideration, during discussions on post war housing programmes, to the provision of accommodation of this type.

7694 "lodger nights" were recorded during the year, an average 21 lodgers per night. All were males of full age.

There were no cases of infectious disease reported at either house.

(b) Tents, Vans, Sheds etc,

There are no camping sites in the generally accepted sense of the term, in the area the only sites in use being occupied by single caravans or sheds.

3 sheds and 7 caravans were in occupation during the year the latter being of the motor or motor trailer type, and with one exception, occupied by transferred workers.

The 3 sheds have been in use for some years and are maintained in satisfactory condition. The use of one shed formerly licensed has now been discontinued.

6 sites are licensed for use by your council. Town water supply and washing facilities were required and provided, at one site during the year, and informal action as regards cleanliness and unsatisfactory maintenance of the site was taken in another case.

(c) Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades in the area with the exception of 16 fried fish and chip premises, 16 inspections with one re-visit were made during the year. Informal action was necessary in 2 cases where cleansing and re-decoration was necessary, and in one case where structural repair was required. They have otherwise been maintained in satisfactory condition.

(d) Houses let in lodgings. )

(e) Canal Boats. )

There are none of these  
in the area

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools in the area. The publicly owned swimming baths have again been closed during the whole of the year owing to the curtailment of the water supply, but it is hoped that an improvement in this direction will enable the baths to be opened in the near future.

Schools.

The Sanitary Condition of the Schools in the area is generally satisfactory,

It was not necessary to resort to school closure on account of infectious disease, nor was school disinfection necessary.



## Factories Act 1937.

The following inspections were made under this Act during the year:-

Factories	86, with 17 re-visits.
Bakehouses	17, " 5 "
Outworkers	81 " - "

4 bakehouses and the Sanitary Conveniences at 6 factories were found to require cleansing and limewashing, and informal action in all these cases had the desired result.

In the cases of 2 factories where a ventilated space is required between sanitary conveniences and workrooms, and in one case where repairs are required informal action has been, so far, without result.

In the case mentioned in my report for 1943, in which legal proceedings were pending for the non-provision of Sanitary Conveniences at a factory, legal proceedings were instituted in 1944 and an adjournment granted to allow the defendants time to carry out their undertaking to comply with the notice. This was carried out and the proceedings were withdrawn.

All outworkers premises were inspected and found to be in satisfactory condition. A case of infectious disease occurred at the home of one worker; all factory material in the house was disinfected and further work suspended for some weeks.

## Keeping of animals.

The food situation and the relaxation of the Bye laws with respect to the keeping of animals has led to a very large increase in the number of pigsties in the area. The majority of those inspected could not have come into existence had the Byelaws been in operation, and their removal will be called for upon the return of normal conditions. Many of them are of flimsy, unsatisfactory construction, too near dwelling houses, undrained or improperly drained, or lacking impervious floors.

It was not possible to inspect all these places, as no record is available other than that compiled from licences to slaughter issued by the local Food Office, but 262 were inspected during the year, with 80 re-visits. In 51 cases informal notices were served for the remedy of defects or the abatement of nuisance.

## Rodent Destruction.

Following on a superficial survey of the area during 1943 to ascertain the extent of rodent infestation, a full-time ratcatcher was appointed by your Council in February, 1944.

2 known major and many minor infestations were first dealt with, and afterwards a systematic visitation of properties throughout the area was made, all infestations being then dealt with as they were discovered. Annual contracts were also made with some industrial concerns to deal regularly with their premises. All this work is carried out for and at the expense of the owners or occupiers of the properties concerned.

During the year 141 infested properties were dealt with either by poison baiting trapping or ferreting. In addition to this the public sewers throughout the whole area, and many stretches of the banks along the brooks and streams, were systematically baited, the 'take' of poison bait recorded affording evidence of the considerable rat population occupying these sewers and waterways.

Almost all your Council's properties, including tips, Stores Yard, and Sewage farms are kept under regular supervision. The Stores Yard was originally found to be very seriously infested, no doubt due to the storage of salvaged material awaiting disposal, but frequent and continued baiting and ferreting have now reduced the rat population to almost insignificant numbers.

It was necessary in only one case to serve notice on an occupier to destroy rats on his premises, under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, this occupier having declined to allow your Council's ratcatcher to deal with the infestation at his expense

## SECTION D.

### Housing

It still remains very difficult to obtain labour for the repair and maintenance of property, in spite of the Ministry's Scheme, building labour in this area being apparently "cut to the bone". Consequently dilapidations are increasing and a very considerable amount of leeway will have to be made good in this direction before reconstruction and clearance of unfit properties can be touched.

I would like, at this point, to mention the housing Survey which is being carried out by all Rural District Councils, the object being to survey, record and classify in certain scheduled categories the condition of all working class houses in their areas. Before any really effective and controlled scheme of repair and reconditioning can be carried out. Some similar survey, perhaps also combined with an overcrowding survey, will be necessary in other areas which are outside the scope of the recommendations of the Ho house report. A survey of this kind will be invaluable in dealing with housing conditions in this area and occasion will be made to refer again to this matter at some future date.

The acute shortage of plumbers is also having serious effects on the maintenance and repair of water fittings, and many properties have been deprived of water supplies for considerable periods when defective pipes or fittings have necessitated the shutting off of the water from the mains.

81 houses were inspected for housing defects under the Public Health Act and Housing Act, and in 76 of these, defects were found requiring action. 30 houses were made fit as a result of informal action and 17 after statutory notices had been served.

A complete re-Survey of the Council houses for over-crowding was undertaken during the year. In addition to affording exact information as to conditions in Council-controlled property it was thought that some indication of general conditions throughout the area might be inferred from the results. All absentee members of the families accommodated (i.e. serving in the Forces, munitions etc) were excluded and have not been taken into account in the following figures.

530 houses, all owned or controlled by your Council were surveyed and recorded, and it was found that 637 families were accommodated. In addition a number tenants were accommodating boarders

451 houses each contained 1 family only, 78 houses contained 2 families each, and 1

It was found that 22 houses, a few of which had previously been recorded, were overcrowded on the "penal" Standard, 8 of these cases having been caused by the accommodation of sub-tenants, generally married members of the tenants' families, and that 1 case of overcrowding was caused by the reception of evacuees. In addition to these 22 cases, there are 14 more where overcrowding will occur on the return of absent sons or daughters.

There were also 28 cases where the number of occupants exceeded the figure allowed by the "Council-house standard, but where no "penal" overcrowding occurred.

On the other hand it was found that "surplus" rooms were available at many houses, where, for various reasons the size of the families had decreased, these occurring mainly in 3 and 4 bedroomed houses.

After consideration, therefore, and in the absence of any alternative means of dealing with this problem, your Council decided to institute a system of voluntary transfer, and tenants who were occupying houses larger than their needs were asked if they would transfer to smaller houses to allow of larger families being accommodated, reasonable removal expenses being borne by the Council.

This scheme met with some success and as a result it has been possible, up to the end of the year, to abate 5 of the "penally" overcrowded cases, and to obtain the requisite accommodation in 14 of the cases which were overcrowded on the "Council house" standard.

It is unlikely that many more of these transfers will be possible unless more tenants agree to move into smaller houses, and the only means then available of dealing with the remainder of the overcrowding will be on the very rare occasions on which a suitable house is completely vacated.

20 cases of overcrowding remained unabated at the commencement of 1944. During the year in addition to the further cases found in Council houses, 5 were discovered in privately owned houses, making a total of 41. Of these a total of 10 cases were abated during the year leaving 31 recorded cases of overcrowding at Dec 31st 1944.

Under the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, one house which is the Subject of a Demolition order is licensed for temporary occupation.

8 houses which are the subjects of closing or Demolition Orders were in use during the year, or a portion of it, for housing evacuated families. In five of these cases essential repairs were carried out at the expense of the Ministry of Health, prior to occupation.

Under the extended requisitioning powers granted to Local Authorities, 1 empty house was requisitioned for the housing of a family living in insanitary and overcrowded conditions.

# SECTION.E.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food

### (a) Milk Supply

There were on the register at the end of 1944-

Cowkeepers. 48

Retail Purveyors 56

Of the latter, 6 were general shopkeepers selling milk in bottles, 33 received, and 16 were retailers bringing in milk from adjoining areas.

77 inspections of cowsheds, and 54 inspections of dairies and retailers premises were made during the year. Additional visits were made to producers and retailers whose milk samples were reported as not being satisfactory.

Slow progress is still being made in the provision of piped water supplies to dairy farms where town mains are in close proximity due to a great extent to shortage of labour and material. In only one instance, Snibstone Lodge Farm, has a piped supply been provided during the year, making 28 dairy farms supplied from the town mains. In 4 other cases negotiations are in progress, or application has already been made, for such a supply.

Structural alteration to cowsheds or dairies have also proceeded at a slow rate and in only one instance has total reconstruction of cowsheds been completed. Probably a contributory factor in this respect has been the extra demands made on producers by the intensive ploughing campaign: this is also having its effect on the cleanly and satisfactory maintenance of cowsheds and dairies, which in many cases is considerably below the pre-war standard.

### Total Contraventions.

	Outstanding from 1943.	Found during year.	Remedied during year.	Outstanding on Dec. 31st.1944.
Cleansing.	1	7	4	4
Alterations	7	1	2	6
Utensils.	-	1	1	-
Others.	1	1	1	1

### Milk Samples.

176 milk samples were submitted for examination, with the following results:-



	No of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory.		
			M.B. only	B. Coli only	Both M.B. and B. Coli
T.T.	5	2	-	-	1
Accredited.	1	1	-	-	-
Non-designated.	70	58	3	4	5
Pastuerised.	38	31	Unsatisfactory.		
			1 hr. test		Phosphatase.
			7		-
All classes for Tuberculosis.	64	Negative.		Positive.	
		51		3	
		10 samples were curdled on arrival at laboratory.			

The unsatisfactory sample of T.T.Milk was reported to the Leics. County Council, the producer's premises being outside this Urban area.

The 12 unsatisfactory samples of non-designated milk were obtained from 10 producers, one of them being outside this area. In this case the Local Authority was notified. Visits for discussion and investigation were made in all other cases and the unsatisfactory results were classified as being due in two cases to lack of water for cooling purposes, worn out or defective utensils (one case), inefficient sterilisation of milking machinery (one case), failure to cleanse and groom animals (one case), milk production being temporarily carried on by an inexperienced person on the death of the farmer (one case), and non-sterilisation of equipment (3 cases). In one of the cases of lack of water for cooling arrangements are being made for a supply from the town mains. The second case has been remedied by the repair of pumping machinery. Further samples from the farm using milking machinery have proved satisfactory. In the case where defective utensils were found, the producer was required to renew his unsatisfactory equipment. Other investigations included the analysis of well water used for washing equipment, and samples of washing from buckets, churns and coolers, as well as of milk at the different stages of production. One producer involved in these adverse reports has since become an Accredited producer and a second has installed sterilising equipment and has been recommended for an Accredited licence.

The 7 unsatisfactory samples of Pasteurised milk, as well as the unsatisfactory T.T. sample mentioned above, were all obtained from one wholesaler, whose samples of pasteurised and non-designated milk were the subject of adverse comment in my Annual Report for 1943. As a result of the steps taken previously, and which were outlined in my last report, the quality of the milk from this source improved, and was satisfactory for some time, but eventually it deteriorated to its previous level. Many informal discussions took place between your Council's Sanitary Inspector, the Chief Inspector of the Leics C.C. and the wholesalers, and at one meeting at the wholesalers depot the Midland Agricultural College was represented. Complaints from householders and retailers were still being received however, and eventually the Local Food Control Committee discussed the position and made representations to the Divisional Office of the Ministry of Food. The matter had not been cleared up at the close of the year and sampling was continuing. The position is particularly unfortunate for consumers, as they are unable to obtain alternative supplies from other dairymen.

An occasional lapse from the standard required is the lot of almost all producers or wholesalers, can readily be understood, and calls for no change in procedure. In my opinion, however, continued default on the part of suppliers to provide milk of reasonable quality should allow of other arrangements being made (with the consent of the local Food Executive Officer) by consumers, especially those who have to use cows' milk for infant feeding.

The three positive samples of milk sent for examination for Tuberculosis were from three separate farms. At one farm one animal was slaughtered under the order as a result of subsequent veterinary examination. At the second farm, group and individual samples submitted by the Veterinary Surgeon were negative, but some animals had been taken from the herd prior to this date. At the third farm it was found that all the farm stock had been sold almost immediately after the taking of the sample, and the dairy herd of 21 cows dispersed. A list of the 12 purchasers was obtained from the Auctioneer and forwarded to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, who later reported that a cow on each of two of these farms had been slaughtered under the order.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1941.

The following licences were granted during the year:-

5 licences to retail T.T.Milk.  
1 licence to retail Accredited milk  
1 " " " Pasteurised "

(b) Meat and other Foods.

No. of Regional slaughterhouses in area.	1
No. of animals slaughtered therein.	11466
No. of animals examined therein.	11466
No. of animals slaughtered elsewhere	787
No. of animals examined elsewhere.	781
No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter.	1011
No. of Knackers yards in the area.	None

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number Killed (if known)	2100	1357	346	7168	1302	12253
Number inspected.	2100	1337	346	7168	1296	12247
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>						Total weight in lbs.
Whole carcasses condemned.	2	9	5	5	6	6813
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	473	375	1	154	11	10072
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	22.6%	28.7%	1.7%	2.2%	1.3%	
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	16	56	1	-	7	43739
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	244	586	-	-	96	35668
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	12.4%	48.0%	0.3%	-	8.0%	
<u>Condemned for reasons other than disease.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	1	2	2	-	1005
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	25	15	2	19	20	1529

All trade slaughtering is still carried out at the Regional Slaughterhouse (the Co-operative Society's premises in Havenstone Road), and, so far as is known, all the animals slaughtered there during the year were examined at, or immediately after, the time of slaughter.

In addition 787 pigs were slaughtered by householders under licence from the Ministry of Food, and 781 of these were examined.

The number of animals slaughtered increased by 673, or 5.8%, over 1943, but the weight of meat condemned has increased by 21,368 lbs or 27.5%, in the same period. This is due to a very considerable increase in the number of bovines slaughtered and to a slight reduction in the number of sheep and pigs.

One gratifying feature has been the reduction, although comparatively slight, in the percentage of animals affected with tuberculosis, the figure for cows having dropped from 49.5 to 48% that of other cattle from 14.8 to 12.4% and pigs from 9.2 to 8%.

The ratio for diseases other than tuberculosis has remained fairly steady.

There was a slight reduction (from 819 to 787) in the number of pigs slaughtered by householders. Of the 781 carcasses examined, 34 were found to be affected, to some degree, with tuberculosis. In 2 of these cases the disease was so generalised as to entail the condemnation of the whole carcasses and offals. Only two carcasses were found to be affected with diseases other than tuberculosis, one of these being condemned complete. The total weight of unfit meat surrendered by householders was 1667 lbs.

Odd cases have again occurred where owners have declined to surrender diseased meat in spite of all the discussion and persuasion which was brought to bear. I feel that there is something radically wrong with legislation which provides very stringent and extensive safeguards against the sale of diseased or unfit food of all kinds, even to adulteration of food with, in many cases, harmless additions, but which allows of the consumption to diseased food because this has not been sold across a counter. The position will not, in my opinion, be satisfactory until legislation covers all food intended for human consumption.

In addition to these inspections of meat, a considerable amount and variety of foods has been examined at shops and warehouses and a list of the food condemned during the year is given below:-

205½ lbs tinned Chopped Ham and Pork Luncheon Meat.

58 lbs " Brisket Beef

11½ lbs " Beef loaf.

3 lbs " Tongue.

5 tins Stewed Steak.

8 tins Meat Roll

60½ lbs Bacon.

12 tins Sardines.

46 tins Salmon.

182 tins Pilchards.

25 tins Herrings.

8 tins Mackerel.

15 Jars Fish paste.

57 lbs Wet Cod.

70 " " Haddock.

6 " " Plaice.

56 " " Herring.

14 " Kippers.

31 tins Mixed Vegetables.

10 tins Peas.

8 tins Carrots.

67 tins Beans.

80 tins Soup.

14 lbs Tinned Plums.

135½ lbs Dried Fruit.

325½ lbs Tinned Jam and Marmalade.

540 Eggs.

387 lbs Sugar.

164 lbs Suet.

64½ lbs Peanut Butter.

34 lbs Cheese.

420 lbs Flour.

1092 lbs Bread.

27 Cartons Cereals.

7 Jars Pickles etc..

96 Bars Chocolate.

181 tins Milk.



Where possible food which has been damaged during transit or in storage, is returned for re-processing. In other cases, and where it is not considered harmful, condemned food is utilised, after cooking, by local pig and poultry keepers.

All condemned meat at the Regional Slaughterhouse is retained by the Ministry of Food and dealt with through their own waste utilisation channels, and this course is adopted, where the amount calls for it, in the case of unfit meat from householders' pigs.

Wartime restrictions are still responsible for the greatly reduced number of food stalls in the weekly market. Inspections have been made on 46 occasions during the year, no action having been necessary.

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, 327 inspections of food shops and food preparation premises were made, with 24 revisits, as follows :-

	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Revisits.</u>
Fried Fish Shops.	16	1
Butchers.	40	1
Fishmongers.	2	-
Market Stalls.	46	-
Grocers.	151	9
Greengrocers.	14	7
Food Manufacturers.	23	-
Bakehouses.	17	5
Slaughterhouses.	8	1
Miscellaneous.	10	-

13 informal notices were served as a result of these inspections, dealing with lack of cleanliness, lighting, and drainage.

(c) Adulteration etc..

Your Authority is not responsible for this work, the Food adulteration clauses being administered by the County Council.

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and control over Infectious Diseases.

Table showing the total notifications received under age groups, and the deaths from infectious diseases under the same age groups.

NOTIFICATIONS.

	Total	under											
		1+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	20+	35+	45+	65+
Scarlet Fever.	29	-	3	-	4	3	20	11	4	3	-	1	-
Diphtheria.	12	-	-	-	-	1	4	4	1	2	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-
Pneumonia.	42	4	3	1	1	1	3	-	1	5	8	10	5
Erysipelas.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1
Ophth.Neon.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal.	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Fever.													
Whooping Cough.	84	11	10	12	11	11	24	4	-	-	-	1	-
Measles.	43	1	4	2	2	2	24	4	3	-	-	-	1

One case of diphtheria in the 4-5 age group was unconfirmed.  
Both cases of cerebro-spinal fever were unconfirmed.  
One case of scarlet fever in the 15-20 group was unconfirmed.

DEATHS.

	Total	under											
		1.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-
Scarlet Fever.													
Diphtheria.													
Puerperal Pyrexia.													
Pneumonia.	11	6				1					2	1	1
Erysipelas.													
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.													
Whooping Cough.													
Measles.													
Enc.Lethargica.	1									1			

Table showing the monthly notifications.

	Total		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Puer. Pyr.		Pneu- monia		Erysipelas.		G.S.F.		Whoop Cough		Measles		Other Notif.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	F	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Jan.	10	12	-	2	-	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	7	7	-	-	-	-
Feb.	8	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	-	1	-	-	5	5	1	-	-	-
March.	19	16	2	1	-	2	-	-	5	3	1	-	-	-	9	10	2	-	-	-
April.	8	10	1	-	-	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	-	-	-	-
May.	8	11	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	6	6	-	-	-	-
June.	12	10	1	3	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	-	1	1	1
July.	3	6	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-
Augst.	2	5	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Sept.	5	7	4	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Oct.	3	5	2	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov.	13	13	5	8	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	2	-	-
Dec.	24	18	4	4	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	17	11	-	-
Total	115	128	20	29	7	5	4	4	22	20	2	3	1	1	38	46	24	19	1	1
	243		49		12				42		5		2		84		45		2	

( \* = unconfirmed )

Diphtheria. 12 cases, one of which was unconfirmed were notified during the year with no deaths.

During the year, 288 children under 5 years, and 23 in the 5-15 age group were immunised, a total of 311. This compares with a total of 1267 for the previous year. According to the estimated child population, 63.3% of the under 5 group, and 93.8% of the 5-15 group had completed treatment, at December 31st. 9 cases of diphtheria occurred in children under 15 years of age, and of these, 7 had been immunised.

#### Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis, and all deaths from the disease during the year.

Age period.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1							1	
1-5			3					
5-15		1	1	4			1	
15-25	3	2	1		2	1		2
25-35	4			1	2	4		
35-45	3	1	1			1	1	
45-55	1	1				1		
55-65		1			1		1	
65-					2			
Total	11	6	6	5	7	7	4	2

Table showing causes of Deaths,  
and sex distribution of deaths in 1944.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	TOTAL	M.	F.
All causes	254	130	124
Typhoid and Para.Fevers.			
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.			
Scarlet Fever.			
Whooping Cough.			
Diphtheria.			
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	14	7	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis	7	4	3
Syphilitic Diseases.			
Influenza.	4	2	2
Measles.			
Acute Polio-myelitis.			
Acute Inf.Encephalitis.	1	1	
Cancer of buccal cavity.			
oesophagus. (M)			
uterus. (F)	1	1	
Cancer of the Stomach and duodenum.	5	4	1
Cancer of the Breast.	3		3
Cancer of all other sites.	16	11	5
Diabetes.	5	3	2
Intracranial vascular lesions	26	9	17
Heart Disease.	65	30	35
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	1		1
Bronchitis.	19	11	8
Pneumonia.	11	8	3
Other Respiratory Diseases.	3	3	
Ulcer of the Stomach or duodenum	3	3	
Diarrhoea under 2 years.	4	4	
Appendicitis.			
Other Digestive Diseases.	3	2	1
Nephritis.	3	2	1
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis.	2		2
Other Maternal Causes.			
Premature birth.	7	3	4
Congenital malformations, birth injuries etc..	9	3	6
Suicide.	2	1	1
Road traffic accidents.	1	1	
Other violent causes.	5	3	2
All other causes.	34	14	20

### Infantile Mortality.

During 1944, 28 deaths occurred amongst infants under 1 year. This gives a rate of 53 per 1000 live births registered, compared with 43 for 1943, 67 for 1942, 54 for 1941.

Table showing sex and ward distribution.

Cause of Death.	Total	Cent M.F.	North M.F.	N.East M.F.	South M.F.	S.East M.F.	West M.F.
Bronchitis.	1			1			
Influenza.	1			1			
Pneumonia.	6	1		2	1	1	1
Gastro-Enteritis.	4			3			1
Prematurity.	7	1			2		1
Malformations etc..	4	1		2		1	1
Congenital Debility.	1	1					
Injury at Birth	2			1	1		
Accidents	1				1		
Non-Prod.Tuberculosis.				1			
	28	2.2	-	7.4	2.3	1	3 3 1



Table showing comparison between figures for Coalville Urban District and the available corresponding (provisional) figures for England and Wales.

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality  
during 1944.

	Rate per 1,000 total pop.		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 pop.								Rate per 1,000 live births.	
	LIVE BIRTHS	STILL BIRTHS	ALL CAUSES	ENTERIC FEVER	SMALLPOX	MEASLES	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPING COUGH	DIPHTHERIA	INFLUENZA	ENTERITIS UNDER 2	TOTAL DEATHS UNDER 1
England and Wales	17.6	0.50	11.6	.00	-	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.12	4.8	46
Coalville U.D.	22.1	0.62	10.6	.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	7.5	53
Coalville U.D. '43.	20.6	0.63	11.7	.00	-	0.04	0.00	0.04	0.13	0.42	4.1	43

I have to thank you, Mr. Chairmen and Gentlemen, for your continued consideration and courtesy, and once more I wish to place on record my indebtedness to the Senior Sanitary Inspector (to whom Sections C.D. and E of this report are due) and to the Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

Your Obedient Servant,

ANDREW HAMILTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

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